

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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| COUNTRY        | USSR (Caucasus)/Iran   | REPORT          |              |
| SUBJECT        | Change of Soviet Border Guard Personnel on the Soviet-Iranian Border | DATE DISTR.     | 6 April 1953 |
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The entire complement of the Soviet border guards on duty at Astara, Lenkoran, Farship, Belyasuvar, Goek Tepe, Bagram Tepe, and Djibrail (Dyebrazil, Dzhebrail) were replaced on 26 November 1952.<sup>1</sup> Many of the new officers arrived 12 November, but took command of their new posts only after the arrival of replacement troops.
2. A column under Lt. Col. Proshkevich moved into the Lenkoran and the Zavand-Astara districts in late November. These troops are attached to Colonel Sibulskiy's command, which covers the area between Astara and the eastern part of Daiman (Diman). This is part of the border guard of Soviet Military Area 2038. Astara, a cavalry post called Hushim, and Kalaputi are headquarters for border forces in this district.
3. A column under Lt. Col. Yermakov, aka Bkhachatur, moved from Goek Tepe to Belyasuvar, where Yermakov was replaced by Major Simonov.<sup>2</sup> Yermakov spent most of his time at Belyasuvar. The soldiers in this unit are from the Crimea, Belorussia, Kalinin, and Voronezh. Two units from this column are in Moghan. One is in the Ovishenk district, and the other, a cavalry unit, is scattered from Belyasuvar to Bagram Tepe. The latter unit is under Major Kuprin, who is replacing Major Nazarenkov. Cavalry is also active in Moghan but their number has been greatly reduced recently.
4. A unit under Lt. Col. Kalyakin arrived in Djibrail district via Nakhichevan, Qarabagh, and Shusti. This unit is stationed opposite the Iranian posts Khuda Afarin and Aslanduz. In this unit there are mostly Armenians. The unit possesses some cavalry.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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5. Most of the new guard troops are between 19 and 20 years of age, and the outpost commanders are Lieutenants and Senior Lts. One of the new officers is Junior Lt. Shavlov, called Ali Shavlov, who has begun to distribute propaganda material among the peasants at Garmi. Amstan. Asadlu. and Kharmarlu. 25X1  
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6. Other new officers are Col. Chishov in Parshib and Senior Lt. or Captain Nadar Mokhamedov, who knows the Tartar and Azerbaydzhan languages. These officer have begun political activities in the Ovarud-Moghan district. 25X1
7. Headquarters of Col. Chishov's regiment will probably be in the small town of Laki-Alfavet. The population of Laki-Alfavet is about 1,000. Battalion centers are at Daiman, Ulshik Kovinskiy, Belyasuvor, Qaraduni, and Bagram Tepe. 25X1  
This makes a complete regiment of infantry and a company of cavalry, which is just the same as it formerly was. 25X1
8. The number of cavalry troops at Kaluz, which is opposite Iranian Arshag in the Lenkoran district, has been reduced.
9. The new guards in the border outposts receive rations of 50 grams of dates weekly, in addition to cigarettes and biscuits. 25X1  
this is the first time in two years that Soviet troops have been given dates.
10. A Major Aleksenkov, who replaced Major Panasuk in September 1952, recently visited the Kaluz district and awarded Lenin medals to peasants on the collective farm there. 25X1  
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11. The new border guards appear well acquainted with the area in which they were posted. At Arkak Toyun outpost, in the Bagram Tepe area, and in the Anuz area of Astara district they are laying mines and stringing barbed wire. 25X1  
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this is being done to combat the Iranian spies who attempt to cross the frontier through several main roads available here, 25X1  
it is only a two-hour walk from Iranian Baharestan to Lenkoran.
12. Mine-laying begun in September along the road at Shirsar, in the Qarnamo area of the Kalaputi district, is continuing.

Comments:

1. This may explain some of the reports 25X1  
of a recent increase in Soviet activity in the border areas. If the above report is correct, apparently the activity was nothing more than a mass rotation of border troops.
2. This might indicate that a part of the rotation was only from one border post to another 25X1  
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